

**MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**
Meeting of April 9, 2013

LOCATION: 234 N. Central Avenue, Suite 6400, Parks Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ 85004

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Carl Yoshioka, Jack Stapley, Dr. Robert Branch, Anne Lynch, and Rod Jarvis

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: R.J. Cardin, Director; Donna Southard, Recorder; Jennifer Waller, Operations Manager; Michele Kogl, Planning and Development Manager; Aimee Upon, Administrator; Don Harris, Park Supervisor; David Jordan, Park Supervisor; Emily Miller, Contract Administrator; Leigh Johnson, Parks Planner; and Betsy Pregulman, Deputy Maricopa County Attorney

The official correspondence and staff recommendations contained in this Commission folder are hereby entered as supportive material to the official minutes of the April 9, 2013, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM # 1 – CALL TO ORDER – Carlton Yoshioka, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission

- Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM # 2 – ROLL CALL – Roll Call taken - a quorum was present.

ITEM # 3 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE March 12, 2013, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – Carlton Yoshioka, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission - ACTION ITEM

- Commissioner Lynch motioned and Commissioner Jarvis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2013, meeting as presented. All in favor, none opposed, and the motion was approved.

ITEM # 4 - DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS – R.J. Cardin, Director, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION ITEM

- Director Cardin informed the Commission that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has recommended the reduction of the Parks Department general fund budget by a minimum of 50%, bringing the Department to a level of approximately 95% self-sustaining. As a result of five continuous years of cuts in the general fund budget, the department will need to look at areas to reduce costs, including the possibility of closing a park. Staff will present updates at next month's meeting.

ITEM # 5 – Lake Pleasant Regional Park Update – David Jordan, Park Supervisor, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation – INFORMATION ITEM

- Lake Pleasant Regional Park contains five major pre-historic/historic native sites. The park receives approximately 640,000 visitors each year. Staff is currently working with the Bureau of Reclamation in a joint project to renovate the Nature Center. The park contains several trails including a floating bridge on the Pipeline Canyon Trail. The Lake Pleasant Trails Plan is in development and will provide additional hiking opportunities for visitors.

ITEM # 6 – Estrella Regional Park Update – Don Harris, Parks Supervisor – INFORMATION ITEM

- Estrella Regional Park is the first park established in the Maricopa County system and is currently 50 years old. The park is home to rare wetland areas within the desert landscape and to the 5th largest Saguaro in Arizona. The park also offers competitive running, bicyclist, and equestrian galloping trails (competitive track). Staff is currently working to repair the aging facilities and structures.

ITEM # 7 – Lake Pleasant Resort and Commercial Development Update – RJ Cardin, Director and Emily Miller, Contract Administrator, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION ITEM

- A Request for Proposal (RFP) to establish a contract for a consultant to assist and advise staff in the development of a concessionaire/developer agreement with Red Rock Investors LLC received one response. The response received was a joint venture of three companies that attended the pre-proposal meeting. The Evaluation Committee reviewed the scope and determined that several areas of the proposal could be eliminated or be completed by current county staff in order to reduce the respondent's quote. Negotiations are still underway with the respondent to provide a scope that will include guidance through the due diligence process and offer best practices in development of the agreement.

ITEM # 8 – White Tank Mountain Regional Park Master Plan Update – Leigh Johnson, Parks Planner, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION ITEM

- The first park master plan was developed in 1964 and has not been updated significantly since that date. Staff is meeting with various agency stakeholders and avid park users for input along with holding two public meetings. A draft plan will be completed late summer/early fall with a final recommendation of the plan update to the Parks and Recreation Commission by the end of the year.

ITEM # 9 – CALL TO THE COMMISSION

- Commissioner Jarvis inquired about the possibility of jeep tours within any of the parks. Director Cardin informed the Commission that off-road recreation is not currently allowed in the parks but that type of activity is being considered for future development at Vulture Mountain, North Lake Pleasant, and Buckeye Hills Regional Parks.

Item # 10 – CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None

Item # 11 – ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, Commissioner Jarvis motioned and Commissioner Lynch seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 am. All members were in favor and the motion was approved.

R.J. Cardin, Director/Secretary

Carlton Yoshioka, Chair